



TPW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2333-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Yasuhiro OKUMOTO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1709  
Application No.: 10/539,246 )  
Filed: May 9, 2006 ) Examiner: Empie, Nathan H.  
For: PROCESSING METHOD AND ) Confirmation No.: 9261  
PROCESSING APPARATUS )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

In reply to the Office Action mailed May 31, 2007, the period for response to which extends through August 31, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.